

Application No.: 10/708,297

Docket No.: JCLA12040

REMARKS**Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103**

The Office Action rejected claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's admitted prior art (AAPA) in view of Funamoto (U.S. Patent No. 5,949,505).

In response to the rejection to claims 1 and 2, Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the reasons discussed below.

Claim 1, as originally filed, recites in part:

1. A multi-domain vertical alignment thin film transistor liquid crystal display (MVA TFT-LCD), comprising:
- a multi-domain vertical alignment thin film transistor liquid crystal display panel;
 - a first wide viewing film on a first surface of the thin film transistor liquid crystal display panel;
 - a first polarizer film on the first viewing film, wherein a surface of the first polarize film has a diffusive pattern ... (Emphasis added).**

Applicants submit that such an MVA TFT-LCD as set forth in claim 1 is neither taught, disclosed, nor suggested by AAPA, Funamoto '505, or any of the other cited references, taken alone or in combination.

The Examiner proposes to use Funamoto '505 to modify AAPA to arrive at the present MVA TFT-LCD as set forth in claim 1. However, although Funamoto '505 discloses a polarizer having a diffusion pattern, Funamoto '505 and AAPA cannot be combined because Funamoto '505 teaches away from such a combination.

An intended purpose of Funamoto '505 is "to generate a suitable diffusion pattern to realize a surface-type illumination device, this diffusion pattern being used in the illumination

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device” (Column 2, lines 16-19). In accordance with this intended purpose, Funamoto ‘505 discloses “the surface-type illumination device ... comprises a polarizer which is polygon-shaped and substantially transparent; a diffusion pattern arranged on one side of the polarizer, the diffusion pattern emitting substantially evenly from one side of the polarizer **light that is introduced from the illuminant** to the other side of the polarizer, and **a cylindrically-shaped illuminant bent so that the illuminant faces at least two sides of the polarizer ...**” (Column 2, lines 37-46) (Emphasis added). The principle of operation of Funamoto ‘505 requires a cylindrically-shaped illuminant bent that faces at least two sides of the polarizer, the illuminant bent providing light from the above-mentioned at least two sides of the polarizer.

AAPA, on the contrary, teaches “a vertical alignment TFT-LCD including a TFT-LCD panel 116, a first wide viewing film 108, a first polarizer film 110 ...” and “the first wide viewing film 108 is on a first surface 116a of the thin film transistor display panel 116” and “the first polarizer film 110 is on the first viewing film 108” (FIG. 1; Paragraph 0007). The vertical alignment TFT-LCD of AAPA requires light emitted from the LCD panel via the wide viewing film to illuminate on the polarizer. Otherwise, the LCD panel would not function to display images.

It has been held that “the proposed modification cannot render the prior art unsatisfactory for its intended purpose” and “the proposed modification cannot change the principle of operation of a reference” (MPEP §2143.02). Applicant submits that a modification of AAPA with Funamoto ‘505 render the Funamoto ‘505 unsatisfactory for its intended purpose and destroys the basic principle of operation of AAPA. There is even no reasonable expectation of success for set up a prima facie case of obviousness (MPEP §2143.02).

Applicant also submits that, if anything, Funamoto ‘505, requiring a cylindrically-shaped illuminant bent that faces at least two sides of the polarizer, teaches away from such a combination (MPEP §2145. X. D. 2).

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For at least the foregoing going reasons, Applicant submits that the present invention, as set forth in claim 1 is novel and non-obvious over AAPA, Funamoto '505, or any of the other cited references, taken alone or in combination, and should be allowed.

Claim 2 depends on claim 1, and should also be allowed.

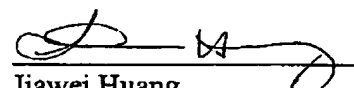
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 1 and 2 are in proper condition for allowance and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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